



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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JACKSON HOLE ELK FACE
SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGE

At the Jackson Hole elk refuge in Wyoming Uncle Sam has a winter relief problem that is causing grave concern in the Bureau of Biological Survey.

Thousands of elk--magnificent wapiti that spend their summers in and about the southern part of Yellowstone National Park--are crowding into the refuge feeding grounds, driven there by heavy snow and lack of food in the surrounding hills. The supply of hay raised on the refuge is rapidly diminishing, reports the Bureau. So severe are the range conditions this year that the elk are joining the Government's "bread line" in larger numbers than ever, and this rush comes at a time when the hay supply is unusually low because of drought last summer.

Unless additional hay can be purchased for use at the refuge, the animals may face starvation conditions for the four to six weeks that would intervene between the end of the feeding and the coming of spring. Such conditions would cause hundreds of the animals to perish and would leave the entire herd in a critical condition.

Conservationists throughout the country are deeply concerned for the welfare of this herd, says the Bureau, and the Chief of the Biological Survey is seeking to ascertain whether there is any way to provide the additional feed needed. No Bureau appropriations are now available for the purchase, and the cooperating

